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Docket No.: 20516 US (C038435/0111694)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)

Tatsuo HOSHINO, *et al.*) Examiner: Nashaat T. Nashed

Serial No.: 09/727,855) Art Unit: 1652

Filed: December 1, 2000)

For: **PROCESS FOR THE MANUFACTURE OF**)
CAROTENOIDS AND BIOLOGICALLY)
USEFUL MATERIALS THEREOF)

New York, New York
July 19, 2004

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION INCLUDING AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box. 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed on April 21, 2004, which set a three-month shortened statutory period for response. Accordingly, this response is filed timely with an executed certificate of mailing, on or before July 21, 2004. 37 CFR §1.8. No fee is believed to be due. If it is determined that a fee is due, please charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 02 4467. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Application No.: 09/727,855
Amendment Dated: July 19, 2004
Reply to Office Action of: April 21, 2004

Please amend the application as follows:

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION: none.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 3 of this paper.

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS: none.

REMARKS begin on page 13 of this paper.